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Wolverine Guard™

Vol. 7, No. 4 Adjutant General's Office, Lansing, Michigan April 1987

Photo by Spec. Thomas R. Roberts

Force On Force

Sergeant Larry Martin of Company A 3rd Battalion 126th Infantry tells his squad to move out on the Tactical Training Lanes at Grand Haven.

See pages 8-9.

(Editor's note: Maj. Gen. Vernon J. Andrews, Michigan Adjutant General, has requested each general officer and major Michigan National Guard commander to contribute a guest column to the Wolverine Guard. *This will give all soldiers an opportunity to learn the views of their leaders.)*

Colonel C. Robert Secrist is commander of the 72nd Support Brigade. In 1956 Colonel Secrist enlisted in the Iowa Army National Guard and was commissioned in 1960 after graduation from the Iowa Military Academy. After transferring to the Michigan Army National Guard in 1965, he held a variety of artillery assignments including command of the 1st Battalion 119th Field Artillery. Colonel Secrist has served in his present position since September of 1983.

Colonel C. Robert Secrist

Tag Talk

With over 4,000 Guardsoldiers in its 7 battalion-level organizations, the 72nd Support Brigade is the largest of the four brigade-level commands in the Michigan Army National Guard. These soldiers belong to 31 combat and combat service support units with the following functions:

— A helicopter support company capable of moving one infantry company in one lift, an attack helicopter battalion and an anti-tank missile maintenance detachment which normally supports the 46th Infantry Brigade. These three units have headquarters in the Indiana Army National Guard's 38th Infantry Division.

— A long-range reconnaissance patrol company in which the soldiers must be airborne and Ranger qualified.

— A corps-level, 400-bed hospital.

— A corps-level signal battalion with over a thousand troops.

— A light truck company for moving supplies through a corps.

— An ordnance company which can supply almost an entire corps' ammunition needs.

— Two corps-level direct support maintenance companies.

— A theater army direct support maintenance company.

— A supply and service company that can furnish petroleum, baths, graves registration, laundry, potable water and supply management support.

— A service company that furnishes graves registration, laundry, baked goods and salvage support.

— A service company which operates a supply warehouse.

— An aviation maintenance detachment whose parent unit is in the Illinois Army National Guard.

— A medical clearing company which is normally part of a divisional medical battalion.

Since Melvin Laird, then the Secretary of Defense, announced the Total Force Policy in the early 1970's "which integrated the active Guard and Reserve forces into a homogeneous whole," the Army National Guard, including the 72nd Support Brigade, has had a vital role in this nation's defense. Accordingly, many of this brigade's companies are priority one units.

Thus, I have one goal for this brigade: *readiness to accomplish the mobilization missions.* By readiness, I mean being prepared to assist in winning a war according to each unit's wartime mission.

To achieve readiness, this brigade's priorities are in three areas: *training, maintenance and people.* The leadership of all in command positions, from the first line supervisor to myself, glues these priorities together for readiness. For the attainment of this readiness, the 72nd Support Brigade's standard is excellence in all of its activities.

TRAINING:

Because our units' mobilization times are too short to permit significant training after mobilization, the key to readiness is being well trained now. Thus, all training must be conducted with the realization that we could go to war as trained.

For maximum training effectiveness, training must be well planned at each level from the first line supervisor to the highest level commander. This excellent prior planning yields excellent training. However, as training is executed, the leader must focus on the soldier's and unit's missions. At the end of a training period, two indicators measure the

Continued on page 6

Wolverine Guard

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Power Breakfast For Privates

★ EO ★ CORNER

By Maj. Michael H. Johnson

"Power Breakfasts" are not new on the national scene. President Ronald Reagan often breakfasts with key members of the United States Congress to explain his legislative programs to them and to solicit their support.

It isn't Washington, D. C. but in the 1st Battalion 125th Infantry, the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Donald Bugg and his executive officer, Maj. Gerald Purcell are making the rounds and explaining the battalion standards and promotion policies at breakfast with the private soldiers of each company in the 125th Infantry.

At the Saginaw Armory on the 29th of March, Lt. Col. Bugg, Maj. Purcell, 2nd Lt. Timothy Chambers, the acting B Company Commander and the company first sergeant, Louis Schnell breakfasted with the company privates.

Lt. Col. Bugg introduced the head table and briefly explained what was required to advance and grow in the battalion. He drew on his considerable experience as an infantryman and noted that the future company commander of B Company and its first sergeant were probably in the room at the time. "If you want to leave the company six years from now more than when you came in, you've got to be sharp, have a positive attitude and stay qualified.

"If you want to stay in the company and move up the rank ladder, you obviously have to do more than the bare minimum."

Major Gerald Purcell followed with a motivational briefing on self-image and growth. "Perception is reality. If you wake up thinking you're going to have a lousy day, guess what, you're going to have a lousy day. If you perceive of yourself as unlucky, you're going to be unlucky. On the other hand, if you think of yourself as successful, you probably will be successful because you have prepared youself. If your team leader leaves the Guard, his replacement has to come from somewhere. If you're prepared to assume those stripes because you have stayed qualified, your weight is okay and you don't have an AWOL problem, you might be considered for the sergeant slot.

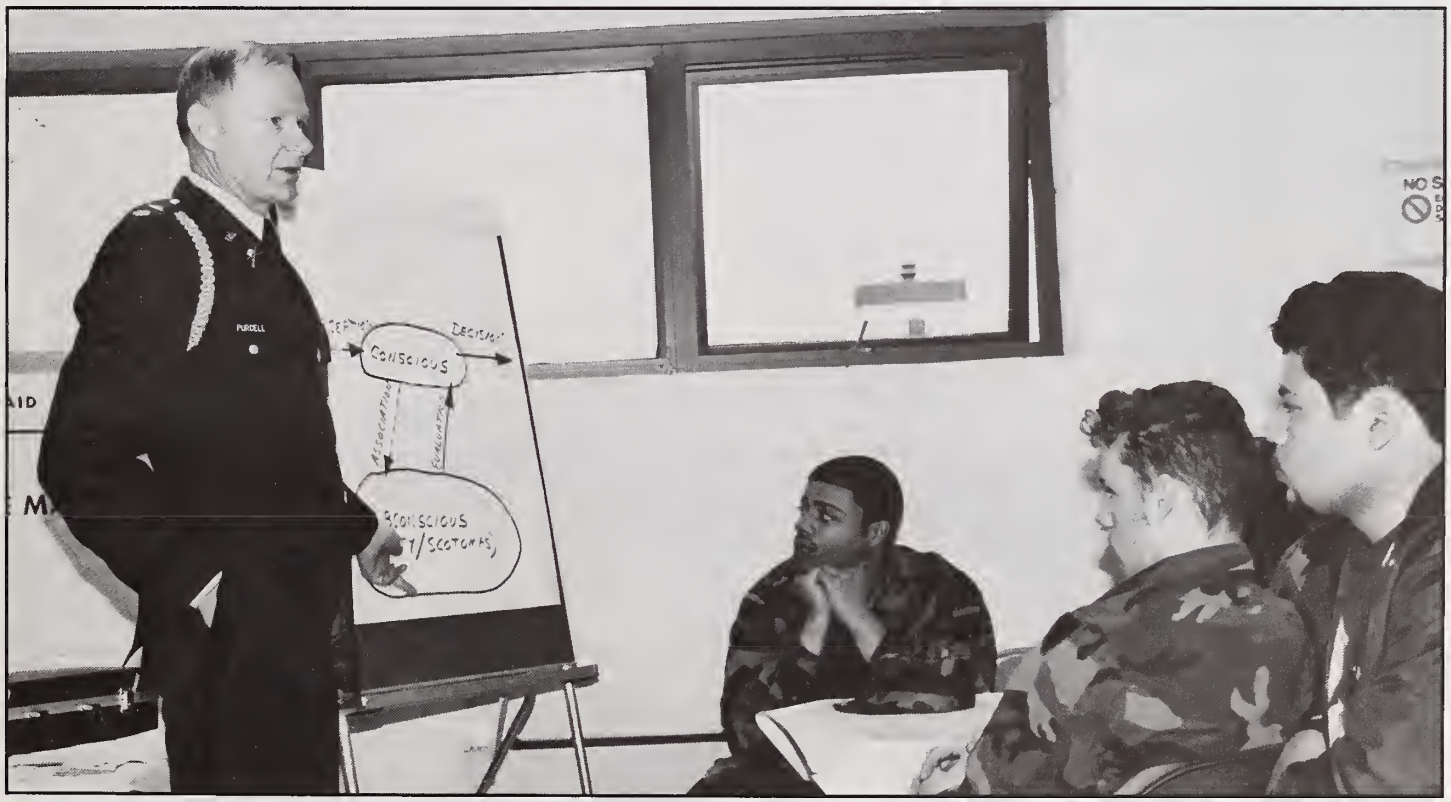
"We all have blind spots, however. Psychologists call them 'scotomas.' These scotomas may even be unknown to us. If you have a scotoma about racial matters, you might not even know it. But someone else may see your racial attitude as negative and if he perceives you as a racist, then that perception has become reality in his mind. And that scotoma has cost you that promotion.

"Scotomas can be identified, however, by honest self appraisal and we can change and eliminate these scotomas.

"Once we do that, we can 'affirm' that we are successful soldiers and build that visualization that we are sharp Guardsmen, not only for ourself and our self-image, but for others. Once again, perception has become reality, this time in a positive fashion for you.

"Believe me, it's hard enough to uncover talent in an organization as big as this battalion. If you've got something on the ball, show us, show the first shirt and company commander. We're looking for talent and people to promote for the good of the battalion, for the accomplishment of our mission."

Lt. Col. Bugg finished with a career expectation survey. One year from now, these career surveys will be reviewed and every private who filled one out will be counseled on where he sits on his own promotion career ladder. As Maj. Purcell said, "You make your own luck."



Photos by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Major Gerald Purcell, the executive officer of 1st Battalion 125th Infantry explains scotomas and their role in conscious thinking to private soldiers of the battalion's Company B.

Second Team –

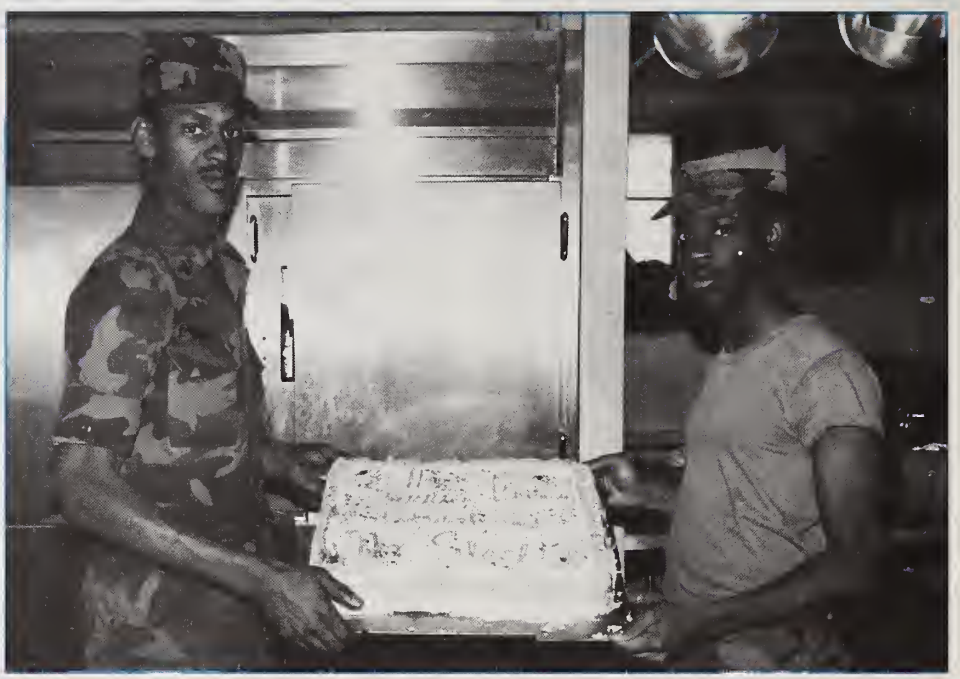
The training doctrine of the United States Army dictates that when a leader is absent or downed in combat, the next senior officer or non-commissioned officer assumes command and the mission goes forward.

This philosophy was put to the test and not found wanting by the 1st Battalion 182nd Field Artillery of Detroit at a range firing weekend at Fort Custer Training Center. The battalion commander and the battery commanders and other battalion officers were at a commander's conference at Lansing while the battalion fired.

The battalion mustered at the Detroit Artillery Armory on Friday evening, the 20th of March, and traveled by commercial bus and battalion vehicles to Fort Custer where they drew their ranges and targets. This administrative headstart paid off the next morning with the battalion on the ranges at 0810, and the M-60 machine gun range went hot with 7.62mm ball downrange at 0830.

The "One Eight Duece" had five ranges hot on Saturday and three on Sunday for makeup firing.

Since everybody could not be on the range at once, Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) stations were established at the corner of Armstrong and Range Roads for concurrent training. Each battery of the 182nd went through these stations as a unit and trained in the proper donning and wear of the chemical protective suit, the four MOPP levels (Mission Oriented Protective Posture),



Sergeant Norman Lee Smith, acting first cook for Service Battery, shows the cake that he and his kitchen crew made for the Saturday noon meal. The caption reads, "Service Battery, Hard Work and No Slack."

This M-60 machine gun crew call for a time out to clear a blockage during qualification firing at Fort Custer Training Center.

– First Rate Job

by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

familiarization and use of the M-258Al Personal Decontamination Kit and finally, a run throught the 'gas chamber.'

First Battalion 182nd Field Artillery was commanded for the weekend by Maj. Gerald Harper, the battalion's executive officer, and the batteries by their executive officers except in the case of Service Battery. Chief Warrant Officer Erwin King assumed command in Capt. Donny North's absence and may be the Michigan Army National Guard's first warrant officer to hold a temporary command under the new commissioning oath all warrant officers took in January of 1987.

Sergeant Major Gerald Peska noted that training in the field reduced the AWOL rate (Absent With Out Leave). "Our AWOL rate goes down by half when we go to Custer or Camp Grayling. These troopers would rather shoot than eat and when they know we're going to the bush, they show up at the armory."

The battalion's operations officer, Maj. Sheldon Johnson, echoed this thought with, "If I had my way, we'd be on the range nine weekends out of twelve. Eight-inch or twenty-two rimfire, the point is that combat arms belong in the field."

At one time no Michigan Army National Guard units trained on the weekend of the Lansing Officers Military Ball but in this age of Total Force and the pressing need for prime time training, every weekend is needed.

When not on the range, members of 1st Battalion 182nd Field Artillery train on Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) warfare techniques and equipment.

Staff Sergeant Carl Morris of Battery B, 1st Battalion 182nd Field Artillery works the M-16 range from his tower.

At ammo breakdown, everybody helps out.

Photos by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

General Andrews On Hearts And Health

I was truly moved by the hundreds of calls, cards, plants and flowers that I received from so many of my fellow Guardspersons during my recent hospitalization. The outpouring of concern and friendship was truly gratifying and I cannot thank all of you enough for having me in your prayers and thoughts.

I would like to take this opportunity to share my experience with you and perhaps these words of wisdom will help you avoid a similar situation in the future.

Several months ago I noticed on my frequent walk and jog outings that I was starting to feel some dull pain and constriction in the center of my chest and shortness of breath after being out only a few minutes. I wisely slowed down and took it easy for four or five minutes and then resumed my walk and run for three or four miles without further complication. I thought that this was only a temporary situation and would go away, but I monitored it closely as the weeks went along and the condition continued. There was an obvious change in my body and I went to the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for my annual general officer physical. In conjunction with this, I requested that they do the treadmill stress test and I explained my symptoms to the doctor. At 11 minutes and 20 seconds on the treadmill, my blood pressure and pulse fell substantially, I started getting the pain in my chest and the EKG print-out showed that substantial changes were taking place in my heartbeat and rhythm. They immediately stopped the treadmill and after studying the results, they determined that I undoubtedly had a blockage and recommended a heart catheterization.

I scheduled this heart catheterization at the Ingham Medical Center a few days later and this clearly demonstrated that I had a substantial (75-80%) blockage in the main left coronary artery, which furnishes approximately 75% of the blood supply to the heart. Because of the location of the blockage, the doctors indicated that the balloon angioplasty would not be effective in my case and would undoubtedly cause a heart attack and substantial heart damage and they recommended surgery.

On March 9, 1987, they performed a double by-pass open heart surgical procedure and fortunately due to the fact that I was in good shape and the rest of my arteries were in excellent condition, the surgery and subsequent recovery has gone quite well, except for some medication problems that have now been adjusted.

As the "resident expert," I wanted to share with you some of the many things that I have learned and have been told by numerous doctors, surgeons, dietitians, nurses, etc. My reason for telling you this is because it is so important to the health of each and every one of you as well as the entire Michigan National Guard.

Hardening of the arteries or blockages within the arteries are primarily caused by several factors. In a few cases it is hereditary, which was true in my case. Normally, however, the condition results from the following things.

A. Smoking
B. Overweight
C. Excessive ingestion of animal fats, to include cream, whole milk, creamy cheeses, animal fat and all items that contain cholesterol.
D. Lack of daily exercise.
E. Stress and inability to cope with the same.

> "If I'd known I was going to live so long, I'd have taken better care of myself."
>
> —Leon Eldred, writer

Fortunately, I have been on a low cholesterol, low salt and low fat diet for the past 20 years and also only smoked on and off for a couple of years during the past 20 years. Between the ages of 22 and 37, I smoked like a smokestack and because of this, my lungs do not have the full 100% capacity that they should have.

This experience has been tremendously educational and while I certainly would not want to go through it again, the good side is that it has made me much more aware of the things that I need to do to have a good healthy and productive life. I sincerely hope that none of you have to go through the open heart surgery and have one or more arteries repaired because of severe blockages. Several other individuals had this same surgery at or about the same time that I did and unfortunately, because they were in much worse shape than I was, most of them are progressing very slowly and have had many complications. A couple have even returned to smoking even though the doctors advised them that they would either be dead within two years or have to have the surgery redone.

Because of our growing requirements to fulfill our rightful position in the "Total Force," each and every one of us that is wearing a uniform, despite our age, must remain physically fit and healthy so that we can carry our fair share of the load if called upon in some national emergency. This requires a personal daily commitment by each and every one of us to take care of ourselves and to watch what we eat and subject our bodies to because in some cases, the damage is irreversible.

I sincerely hope that this message will motivate those of you who have not already done so to think about your health as well as your eating and living habits so that you can remain strong and healthy to defend your loved ones if need be.

Again, thank you for your concern and good wishes and I return them to each and every one of you.

by Maj. Gen. Vernon J. Andrews

TAG TALK

Continued from page 2

effectiveness of training planning and execution: Was the training directed towards mobilization readiness and did the soldier find the training meaningful, challenging and exciting?

MAINTENANCE:

Because we will go to war with the equipment we have, we must emphasize maintenance. This means we must plan and execute maintenance activities with the same fervor as we do other training activities. Maintenance does not mean just cleaning of and conducting PMCS on equipment; it includes protecting our equipment from loss and incorporating supply accountability.

PEOPLE:

People, our Guardsoldiers, constitute our greatest resource. Their loyalty and devotion to the National Guard and this nation and their willingness to excel form the backbone of the past training and maintenance successes. Our product to this nation is the well-trained soldier who is prepared to do his part if we have to go to war. We have no choice but to train these soldiers well to protect the great freedoms which we have.

In conclusion, these high quality soldiers want to do well and **will do well if** well led. High quality leadership forms the catalyst so that our units are prepared to accomplish their wartime missions. With outstanding leadership directed towards a standard of excellence, our units will be trained, maintained and resourced with high quality soldiers to meet our mobilization readiness requirement.

WARRIOR 2000

Who will command the battalions of the Michigan Army National Guard in the year 2000, and who will be their sergeants majors?

Warrior 2000 will begin to answer this question. Warrior 2000 is a leadership symposium for future leaders presented by the Michigan Military Academy that will begin the commissioning process for future Guard officers and describe leadership training opportunities for non-commissioned officers.

According to Lt. Col. "Tony" Oien, Commandant of Michigan Military Academy, the year 2000 is not that far away and tomorrow's battalion commanders and sergeants majors are already in the Michigan National Guard.

"There are only thirteen years left in this century. If a young person is commissioned in 1988, he or she conceivably could be a battalion commander in the year 2000.

"Warrior 2000 is designed to identify, motivate and prepare future leaders for the Michigan Army National Guard through our officer commissioning programs and non-commissioned officer programs.

"We are hosting these leadership symposiums for future leaders in May and June. We begin on 30 May at Davenport College in Grand Rapids and move to the University of Detroit the next day, the 31st. In June we will be at the Michigan State Police Academy on the 13th and 14th.

"We have identified over 600 Guardsoldiers who will attend Warrior 2000. They have already been notified by their commanders and will attend Warrior 2000 with their company commanders or executive officers. They will take the Officer Selection Test (OST) and then be screened by boards composed of the company commanders in attendance.

"They will be notified in a week of their selection to Officer Candidate School. Because of peer pressure at the unit level that may dampen the enthusiasm these young soldiers will have after Warrior 2000, we are only going to have them go to their units one more time and that is to draw equipment. All their drills after that will be at Michigan Military Academy until they are commissioned.

"Those who are not selected for OCS will be encouraged to attend non-commissioned officers' schools at the Academy. After this talent for leadership has been identified, we want to make the most of it for the Michigan National Guard and themselves."

by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

by Sgt. Glen Henderson

"Hold it right there, Sarge, did you fill out the right forms to scrap Federal property?"

"The day you have to be the first one to stand up and say 'follow me' is the day you'll earn every salute you ever got."

—David Donovan, writer

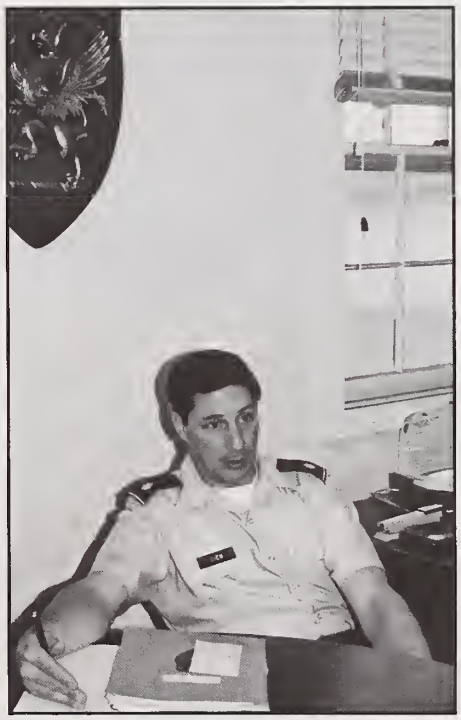


Photo by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

"There's a leadership niche for everybody. Some people want to be NCOs. We want them to be the best damn NCOs in the Guard; that's why we're here."

Marksmanship Competitions

The Michigan National Guard is again preparing to conduct competitive marksmanship meets. The championships are conducted in National Match Rifle (M-14), Light Machine gun, Combat Rifle (M-16) and National Match and Combat Pistol (M-1911A1) matches. The dates for the competitions are as follows:

9-10 May 1987
Governor's Twenty, M-14, Championship, Fort Custer Training Center

12 July
Light Machine gun Championship, Camp Grayling

20-21 September
Combat Rifle, M-16, Championship, Camp Grayling

26-27 September
Governor's Twenty Pistol Championship, Fort Custer Training Center

Match programs are distributed to Michigan National Guard units 2 months before each competition. Further information about the matches may be obtained from Headquarters, State Area Readiness Command, ATTN: SARTS, 2500 South Washington Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48913 or from Sgt. 1st Class Wilfred Buege, 7720 Northland Drive, Northeast, Rockford, Michigan 49341.

Each year at these competitions, members of the rifle, pistol and light machine gun teams are selected for the coming year. The shooters selected have the opportunity to represent the Michigan National Guard at higher levels of competition.

By Spec. Thomas R. Roberts.

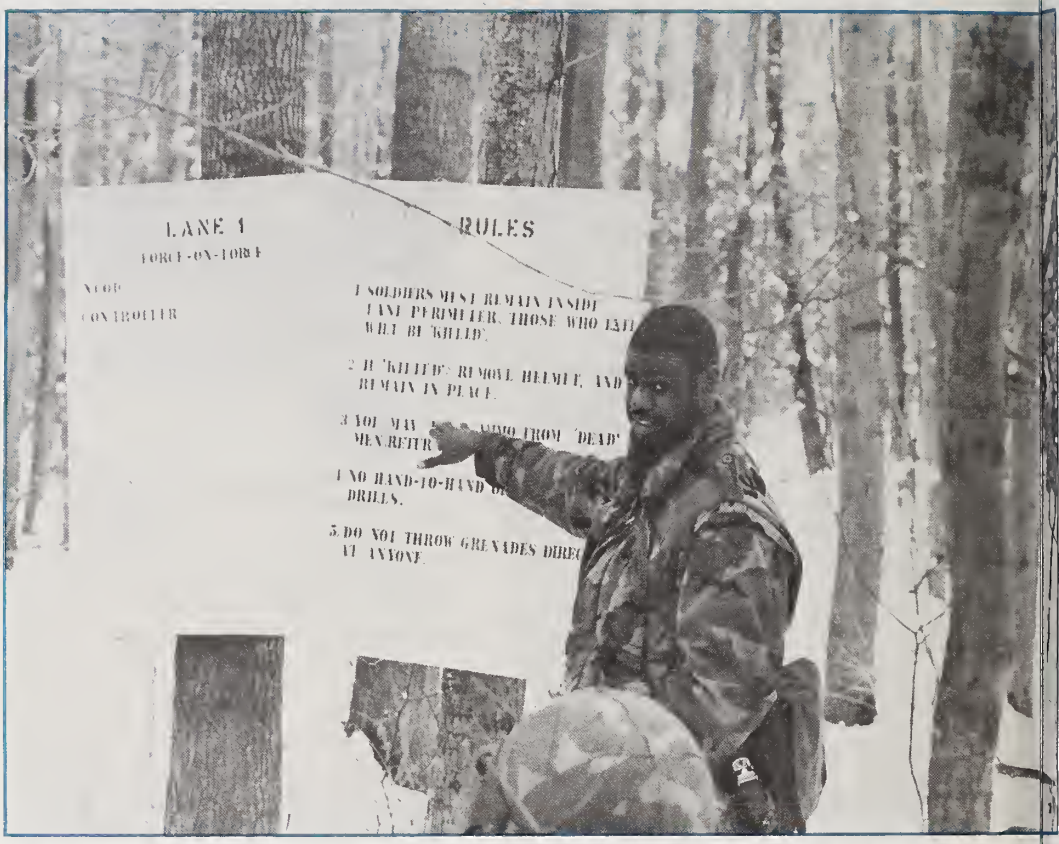
FORCE O

Captain George Chipman, commander of Company A 3rd Battalion 126th Infantry, knows the value of building on good training and reinforcing the lessons learned from previous training.

On 14 March 1987, he assembled the company at the Grand Haven National Guard armory and began a drill weekend that built on the experience gained on the Brigade Directed Exercises at last year's annual training at Camp Grayling, specifically, the Tactical Training Lanes.

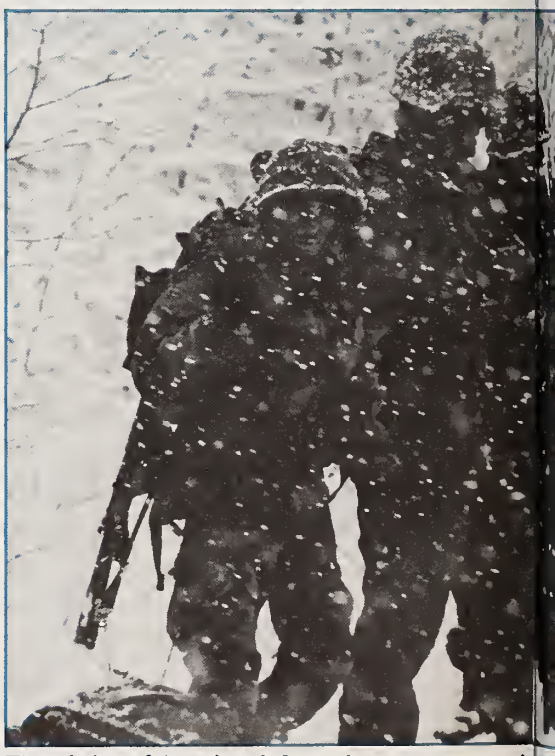
The training non-commissioned officers of Company A and the company's primary leadership had spent months planning this exercise. It would involve the company's infantry squads in two ARTEP tasks (Army Training and Evaluation Program), a force on force meeting engagement between two maneuvering squads and a dismounted attack by a squad against a dug-in fighting position.

The training literature was researched and the Intermediate Training Objectives (ITOs) were established. Consumers Power Company was contacted for permission to use their abandoned gravel pit on M-104 as a Local Training Area (LTA). To provide realism for the exercise, a company-size MILES set was obtained from Camp Grayling. The acronym stands for Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System. When soldiers are equipped with the MILES sensors, an alarm sounds and their weapons become inoperable when they are hit by an enemy laser beam. This takes the guesswork



Sergeant Darwin Melton explains the rules of engagement for the MILES exercise at Company A's Local Training Area (LTA), Consumers Power gravel pit on M-104.

During the Tactical Training Lane exercise, the attacking squads donned their protective masks on the warning of "Gas!" and later went to Mission Oriented Protective Posture 4 (MOPP 4) when they had secured their objective.



The mission of American infantry is to maneuver, seiz

out of evaluating an assault or defense and graphically shows how quickly an attacking force can be reduced if tactically sound overwatch techniques are not used.

When the company arrived at the LTA, the squads conducted ARTEP training while the MILES equipment was assembled and drawn. Blank ammunition was drawn for the M-16s and the M-60 machine guns. The training committee set up the Tactical Training Lanes and determined where the evaluators would be in the lanes.

The noon meal was served administratively at the LTA and the first squads to go downrange fed first.

While squads were working on the Tactical Training Lanes, other squads worked on a bayonet assault course and M-60 machine gun and DRAGON training.

Comments from the company after they cleared the LTA showed the value of good, well planned training:

"The training was great and having a hot meal in the snow was even greater." — Staff Sgt. Kelvin Witherspoon.

"It was obvious the lanes were well prepared and I thought with the MILES the movement was realistic." — Private 1st Class James Webster.

"This proves that good training and good leadership will bring out the best in these soldiers and they rose to the mission." — 1st Sgt. William Hellman.

A winter camouflaged infantryman from Company A waits for a signal to move out on the Tactical Training Lanes.

ıd hold terrain in any kind of weather.

Drawing and calibrating the MILES equipment takes time to get it right.

Photos by Spec. Thomas R. Roberts

Engineer Command Changes

by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Editor's Note: Obviously, the Wolverine Guard cannot cover every command change in the Michigan National Guard, but in April we got lucky and covered 4 battalion and 2 company command changes.

The month of April was one of change for units in the 46th Engineer Group. Three battalion commanders assumed command of their battalions and two new company commanders assumed command of their units.

Lieutenant Colonel James Dougovito has passed command of the 107th Engineer Battalion to his executive officer, Maj. William Louma, a high school teacher from Ironwood, Michigan. Lt. Col. Dougovito is the new State Engineer Officer at National Guard Headquarters at Lansing, Michigan vice the retirement of Col. Henry "Hank" Ilenich.

Lieutenant Colonel Michael Paluda assumed command of the 117th Quartermaster Battalion, newly formed at Kingsford, Michigan. Lt. Col. Paluda passed command of the 207th Engineer Battalion at Bay City, Michigan to Maj. Bruce Whitman. Maj. Whitman is a mechanical engineer with Rapastan Corporation in Grand Rapids.

At company level, the command of the 1435th Engineer Company at Bay City was passed to 1st Lt. Gary Bendall who is the Drain Commissioner for Shiawassee County. The outgoing commander is Capt. James Anderson, who teaches in the Bangor School System.

At Sault Ste. Marie, the 1437th Engineer Company was handed off to 1st Lt. Joseph Barrs, who is a student at Lake Superior State College. Bridge Company was commanded by Capt. Robert Beauprey who manages the Wastewater Treatment Plant in Munising in civil life.

Lieutenant Colonel James Dougovito, outgoing commander of the 107th Engineer Battalion, hands the battalion colors to Maj. William Louma, far left, the new commander, as Col. Peter Injasoulian, commander of the 46th Engineer Group, looks on.

Photos by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

First Sergeant Ernest J. Perron reads the order to change the custody of the Company Rock from Capt. Robert Beauprey, left, the outgoing company commander of the 1437th Engineer Company at Sault Sainte Marie, to 1st Lt. Joseph Barrs, the new company commander.

Former Private Returns to Command 225th Infantry

Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Rice, who joined the 1st Battalion 225th Infantry in 1966 as a private soldier, has returned to command his home battalion.

Lieutenant Col. Rice enlisted in Combat Support Company on 24 May 1966 and was commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry on 30 June 1968 from Michigan Military Academy. He commanded Combat Support Company from 2 February 1973 until 31 December 1974. The 225th Infantry was mechanized then and affiliated with the 4th Infantry Division (MECHANIZED) of Fort Carson, Colorado.

Lieutenant Col. Rice is the Director of State Operations and Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Department of Military Affairs. Rice holds the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster and the Michigan Legion of Merit.

Photo by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Rice accepts the colors of 1st Battalion 225th Infantry from the outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Lonni G. Van Noy, left, as Col. Gary Tellier, commander of the 46th Infantry Brigade (WOLVERINES) and the 225th's command sergeant major, Guerin Kilgore, look on.

THE BRADY GUARD

The Brady Guard was formed as an independent company of volunteer militia infantry in Detroit on the 2nd of April in 1836. The organization was soon meeting regularly and received permission from Maj. Gen. Hugh Brady, United States Army, to use his name. The unit was later designated the Grayson Guard in honor of Colonel Grayson, a U.S. Army instructor, and then the Detroit Light Guard in 1855 and has been in continuous existence since that time. Company A 1st Battalion 225th Infantry carries an unbroken lineage from the Brady Guard thus making it the oldest active military unit in Michigan. Company A is presently commanded by Capt. Dennis Thinel. Capt. Thinel lives in East Detroit and works for General Dynamics.

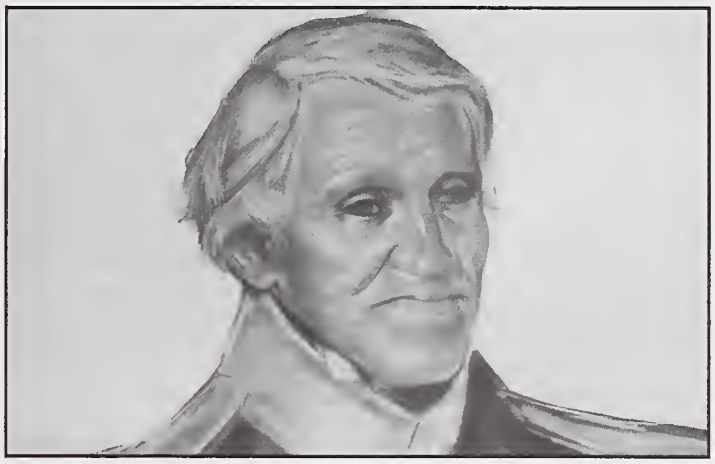


Photo by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

CALLING ALL SOLDIERS

From a memorandum that was issued last August by the office of Army Chief of Staff General John A. Wickham Jr.

FM: HQDA WASHDC
TO: ALARACT
SUBJECT: Addressing Soldiers

The Chief of Staff, Army, has directed that all military members of the U.S. Army be called soldiers. The term "soldier" has connotations of valor, duty, honor, sacrifice: noble values of a noble profession. The term "SM" (meaning Service Member) is a vapid construct which evokes sensings of computer-jargon ciphers, or worse: an 8-hour-per-day "employee" of the U.S. government.

Let us hear from you

The *Wolverine Guard* actively solicits material of general military interest to its readership. Photographs should be at least 5 x 7 inch black and white prints and manuscripts typed double spaced on plain bond paper. Photographs and manuscripts will be returned to contributors.

Story material can be sent to the editor at the *Wolverine Guard,* 2500 S. Washington, Lansing, Michigan 48913.

"Everybody Will

The mission of Headquarters, State Area Readiness Command (HQ STARC) is, in the event of war, to assist in mobilizing Reserve and National Guard forces to their mobilization stations, both in and out of state, assist in post-mobilization training and then help the units get to their Port of Embarkation. After the units are all out of state and have reached their respective mobilization stations on their way to their Theaters of War, HQ STARC establishes the Michigan State Defense Force which assumes the state mission of the National Guard and stays in Michigan protecting the lives and property of Michigan citizens. HQ STARC then performs post-mobilization mission from United States Fourth Army and when these are complete, dissolves itself into individual mobilization entities.

The section that is primarily responsible for Federal and State activation is HQ STARC's Military Support Section. According to Maj. Dennis Hull, Military Support Officer, one of the most critical parts of a mobilization is ensuring the Guardsoldier and his family are provided for. "If a trooper is worried that his family is going to have trouble at home when he is away, you're going to have a troubled soldier on your hands and his mind won't be on his Guard job," said Hull.

To make certain the many, many things necessary to deployment are done before mobilization, the Military Support Section, with support from other STARC sections, is conducting MODREs, MObilization Deployment Readiness Exercises, around the state prior to REDEX '87, REadiness, Deployment EXercise, which will terminate upon completion of annual training at Camp Grayling in July, 1987.

A five-day MODRE was conducted by the 210th Military Police Battalion at the Detroit Artillery Armory, 5-9 March 1987. Some of the activities involved legal briefings to the Guardsoldiers of the 1775th and 1776th Military Police Companies, panagraphic X-rays for all soldiers, updating of medical and personnel records, issuing "dog tags" for those who needed them, equipment showdown inspections and on Sunday afternoon, an extensive briefing to the soldiers and their spouses on what assistance was available to them in the local area once the Guard was mobilized. When this was completed, spouses were issued the Army Guard/Reserve Family Member Identification Card, DA Form 5431. This card can be used to obtain medical assistance and treatment after mobilization and can be used before mobilization to shop in commissaries once the new rules are implemented.

The MODRE involved a tremendous amount of personnel administration, and a team from HQ STARC was sent to begin the work two days before the exercise started. The STARC teams were from Army Personnel, Logistics and Transportation sections.

Preparation is the key to successful mobilization according to Col. Robert V. Taylor, Director of Army Personnel.

"The more we can do before mobilization, the smoother it will be. This is the whole point of the REDEX series of annual training periods. Can we really, I mean *really*, mobilize at home station, deploy to the field at Camp Grayling and move right into post-mobilization training? We did it last year and these MODREs will help us do it again in '87," said Taylor.

by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

MOBILIZATION, 1935

"Everybody will now be mobilized and all boys old enough to carry a spear will be sent to Addis Ababa. Married men will take their wives to carry food and cook. Those without wives will take any woman without a husband. Women with small babies need not go. The blind, those who cannot walk or for any reason cannot carry a spear are exempted. Anyone found at home after receipt of this order will be hanged."

Haile Selassie
Emperor of Ethiopia, 1935

Photos by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Staff Sergeant William "Pete" Dollar, right, directs the "dog tag" operation at the 210th MODRE.

Now Be Mobilized"

"Regard your soldiers as your children and they will follow you into the deepest valleys. Look on them as your own beloved sons and they will stand by you even unto death."

—Sun Tsu (400-320 B.C.), author, *The Art of War*

Part of the HQ, STARC team's efforts were the issuing of correct identification cards at the MODRE.

Photos by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Colonel Richard K. Schmidt, camp commander of Camp Grayling, has been named chairman of the State-Owned Mobilization Sites Committee.

A military policeman from the 210th Military Police Battalion is given a panagraphic dental X-ray.

Camp Grayling As Mobilization Site

When the Reserve and National Guard are mobilized by Executive Proclamation, Camp Grayling assumes its role as one of the nine state-owned mobilization sites in the United States. Camp Grayling is the mobilization site for many Michigan and out-of-state units according to Col. Richard K. Schmidt, Camp Commander. "When we are mobilized, the Camp Grayling units, such as the 1071st Maintenance Company and the engineer detachments, would go to their CAPSTONE gaining commands. We would run Camp Grayling with the Installation Support Unit people that are left as mobilization cadre. The staff would be filled with soldiers from the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR), Individual Mobilization Augmentees (IMA) and civilian hires," said Schmidt.

Col. Schmidt was recently appointed Chairman of the State Owned Mobilization Site Committee. The SOMS Committee is composed of the commanders of Camp Atterbury, Indiana; Camp Blanding, Florida; Camp Edwards, Massachusetts; Camp Grayling, Michigan; Gowan Field, Idaho; Camp Ripley, Minnesota; Camp Robinson, Arkansas; Camp Roberts, California and Camp Shelby, Mississippi. The committee meets periodically to discuss such things as differences and commonalities of mission, the need for secure communications upon mobilization and to review the ever changing CAPSTONE traces.

"CAPSTONE tells us who is coming to Camp Grayling for post-mobilization, but it doesn't tell us how long they will be staying. The status of the war will tell us that, so we have to be flexible in terms of supporting the units," said Schmidt.

"Camp Grayling is set up right now to accept a light infantry division and an armored cavalry regiment upon mobilization." he said. "Obviously they won't all fit in the cantonment area but will have to be in the training areas. Our series of REDEXs are helping us shake down into a support unit that can take care of large numbers of units in the field here at Camp Grayling," said Schmidt.

by Maj. Michael H. Johnson

Battle Books

***Battle Books* is a review of books of a general military nature. The opinions are those of the reviewer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Military Affairs.**

WHEN THE BUFFALO FIGHT

When the Buffalo Fight by Lex McAulay is a riveting account of the first Australian combat troops to fight in the Vietnam War.

Lex McAulay doesn't give the exact dates of the Australian deployment, but Shelby L. Stanton's *Vietnam Order of Battle* show the Australians shipped the First Battalion, Royal Australian Regiment (RAR) to Vietnam on 25 May 1965. The 1st Battalion RAR was located at Bien Hoa as part of the 173rd Infantry Brigade (AIRBORNE). When its supporting engineers, artillery and light aircraft arrived, the Aussie-reinforced battalion was 1,300 men strong. Most of their operations were in War Zone D where they conducted 'search and destroy' operations until June of 1966, when they were deployed back to Australia.

It is little known, but the Australian government kept a task force in Vietnam until the war was clearly lost, and withdrew with the American forces and had all of their combat troops out of country by December of 1971.

McAulay's book is refreshing reading for those who eschew the *Mark Boland* and *Saigon Commando* series of books now being written about the Vietnam War.

He describes the frustrations of fighting a war that has no clearly defined lines and balances this with the fears of their families waiting back in Australia trying, like their American counterparts, to understand this new kind of war.

Fighting in the shadow of the legendary 173rd Airborne Brigade caused problems of identification for the Aussie task force.

> "Well, Sir, looks to me like the bastard didn't want anyone else to have a victory and get any credit. It's always 'U.S. paratroopers' when they do anything and 'allied troops' when we do."
>
> "Well, we're the junior partner, Private Fitzgibbon."

McAulay identifies the differences in the combat techniques between the American and Australian forces in Vietnam. The Australian Army was a professional army of volunteers, most of whom were combat veterans of jungle warfare in the Malaysian campaign. They were used to small unit tactics in the jungle, or the 'J,' as he calls it, while the American Army was composed of conscripts and had trouble thinking below battalion level.

> "There's good men everywhere — no doubt about it. Those Yank radio and arty blokes who come out with us are okay, and how about the helicopter pilots? The paras did okay on the last op, when the chips were down. It's just that they think too big — masses of guns, bullets, and airplanes. That's all right in Europe, but what you need here is lots of good infantry sections (squads). They hardly think below a battalion. Any way, how's the Budweiser holding out?"

The title comes from an old Asian saying, "When the Buffalo fight, the small animals get trampled."

While McAuley describes well the frustrations of fighting an ill-defined war, he describes with compassion and feeling the "small animals," the Vietnamese peasantry, as they are trampled in the struggle for Vietnam.

The impression left by McAulay is that somehow, perhaps by their Malaysian experiences, the Australian Buffalo didn't trample as many of the small animals as did others.

When the Buffalo Fight by Lex McAulay. Bantam Books, 1987, 225 pages, paperback, $3.50 US.

Redleg Reunion

The 119th Field Artillery Veterans Association will hold its 50th Annual Reunion on the 23rd and 24th of May 1987 at the Lansing Artillery Armory on Marshall Street, Lansing, Michigan.

The Hospitality Night will begin at 1930, 23 May in the Officer's Lounge and may end at 0100 on the 24th. The regular meeting will begin at 1100 on Sunday, the 24th. A luncheon will be served at 1230 and that will be followed by a short business meeting and the presentation of the Outstanding 119th Field Artillery Battalion Soldier of the Year Award.

The 119th Field Artillery dates back to the first Michigan Militia and has seen combat in the Spanish-American War, World War I and World War II and has been called to State Active Duty many times for emergency duty. All artillery comrades-in-arms are welcome and eligible for membership.

Further information can be had by contacting the 119th Field Artillery Veterans Association's secretary, Carl N. Clark, 4573 Spahr Avenue, Holt, Michigan 49942 or by telephoning him at (517) 694-8688.

A Historical Landing

History was recently made at Battle Creek Air National Guard Base when Brig. Gen. Harold Rudolph, Commander of the 127th Tactical Fighter Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base near Mount Clemens, Michigan, landed an A-7D Corsair II at the "Crick."

The landing was the first Air Force "high performance" jet aircraft to land at Battle Creek without a waiver from its Air Force Command. A waiver was not necessary because the runway was recently extended to 10,000 feet. Before the runway extension, the runway length was only 7,000 feet, which necessitated the waivers.

Colonel Ronald L. Seely, Commander of Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, reports that the longer runway should mean more military aircraft using the local base for refueling, stopovers and other reasons because a waiver is now not necessary.

The longer runway also makes Battle Creek Air National Guard Base eligible for modern jet aircraft as the follow-on aircraft to replace the aging and venerable OA-37 Dragonfly when it is phased out.

by Maj. David Lubbers

Photo by Master Sgt. Gaylord Maxson

Colonel Ronald L. Seely, Commander of Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, congratulates Brig. Gen. Harold Rudolph, Commander of the 127th Tactical Fighter Wing, for being the first person to bring a "high performance" jet aircraft into Battle Creek Air without an Air Force waiver.

Long Lost Letter Reveals "Serious" Problems At Battle Creek Air

It was November 1943 and our nation was in the middle of World War II. There were offensives in the southern and central Pacific, with victory in the Solomon Islands, and the Japanese had already been expelled from the Aleutian Islands. In Europe the air power of the Army Air Corps was beginning to smash European targets, and the Allies had already landed at Salerno, Italy. "Ike" was busy planning the cross-channel landing at Normandy which would take place the following June in 1944.

Life was also hectic at the Army Air Base at Kellogg Field located at Battle Creek, Michigan, now the home of 110th Tactical Air Support Group, Michigan Air National Guard. Here air crews were being trained to fly fighter aircraft and they would later see combat before the war ended in 1945.

But not all the problems of that age were confined to those in combat in the European and Pacific theatres. At least not according to a letter found in Building 6955 at Battle Creek Air National Guard Base by Senior Master Sergeant Daniel Shearer and technical Sergeant Fred Radon. Both Guardsmen are members of the 110th Civil Engineering Squadron. They found a unique letter stapled onto a wall which they uncovered while doing construction work. It seems that a Major Robert S. Barney of the Army Air Corps was at his wit's end. According to his letter, slamming of doors, loud talking and laughing after the normal retirement hour of 2300 by certain officers "has become a nuisance and indicates utter disregard for the rights of others concerned." The letter was addressed to those officers residing in Buildings 6931 and 6933, which are still being used to house Guardsoldiers today.

When reading the letter, one can feel the frustration of Major Barney. He probably thought, "Here we are in the middle of a world war and I've got to spend my time telling people to shut up!" He concluded his letter in typical military fashion by giving "house rule," (a.) through (h.) Rule (f.) is "Close out the bull sessions and social gatherings of a loud and boisterous nature at 2300." And that's an order, Lieutenant!

Did the posting of these rules solve the problem? No one knows, but at least one officer found the rules helpful. He used the paper on the wall to write down a local address on Capitol Avenue. Probably a blind date for Friday night.

There are two morals to this story. First, some things never change. Major Henry Fuhs, who occasionally stays in Building 6931, reports that the "bull sessions are still going on," and other officers stated that the loud and boisterous gatherings still take place. Several suggested reposting Major Barney's rules because they are still relevant. Second, be careful that you write, especially if you post it in a public place. Forty-three years later, somebody may smile at your frustrations.

by Maj. David Lubbers

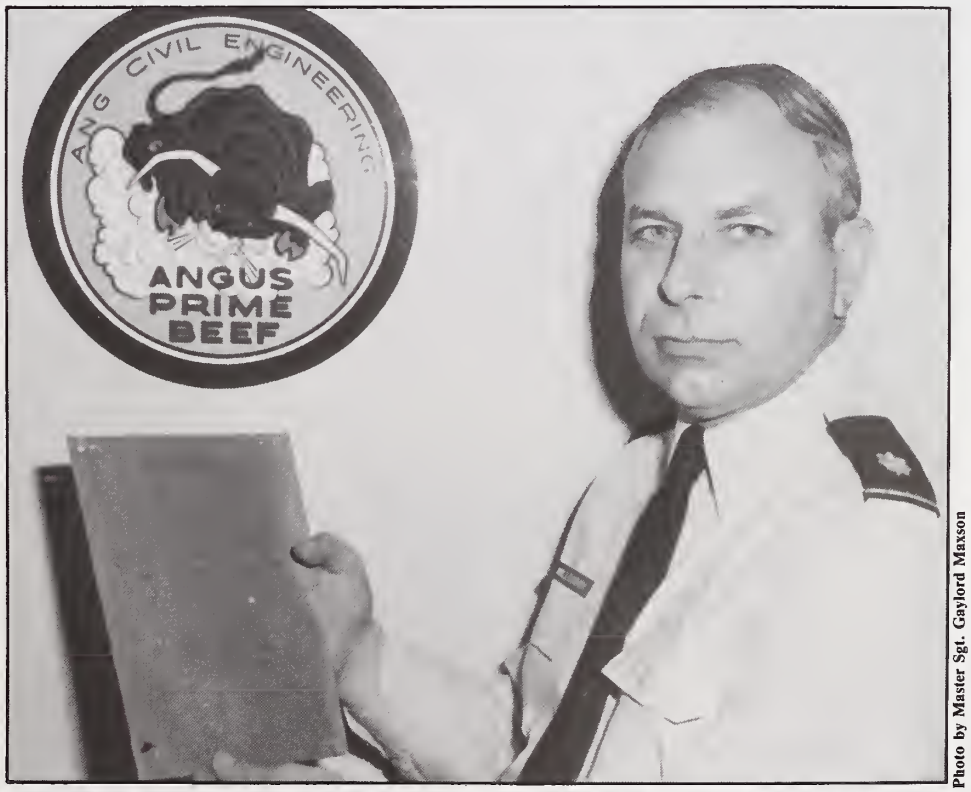


Photo by Master Sgt. Gaylord Maxson

Lieutenant Colonel James W. Willoughby, commander of the 110th Civil Engineering Squadron at Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, holds the letter one of his construction crews found that describes the "serious" problems at Kellogg Field in November of 1943.

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FLARE

STATE SERGEANT MAJOR

Photo by Spec. Thomas R. Roberts

Sergeant Major Joseph Di Giovanni, the Area I Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge for Recruiting and Retention in the Detroit area has been named the new State Command Sergeant Major vice the death of Command Sergeant Major Devere Parker who died on 2 October 1986.

Di Giovanni is a Vietnam Veteran who served with the United States Navy as a hospital corpsman with 2nd Medical Battalion, Fleet Marine Force, May of 1964 until May of 1965. Sgt. Maj. Di Giovanni joined the Michigan Army National Guard in 1975 and has spent most of his Guard career in the Detroit area as an Army Guard recruiter.

Sergeant Major Di Giovanni attended Oakland Community majoring in business administration and is currently enrolled at Michigan State University.

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